



Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Wildlife Bureau
PO Box 200701
Helena MT 59020-0701
July 18, 2011

Dear Interested Person:

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) is requesting public comment on proposed 2011 Early Season Migratory Bird Regulations that were adopted for public comment by the FWP Commission at its July 14, 2011 meeting. FWP is also opening public scoping for the upcoming 2012-2013 biennial hunting season setting process. Proposed specifics, comment process and comment deadlines are all listed below. Note specific comment deadlines for each topic.

PROPOSED 2011 EARLY SEASON MIGRATORY BIRD REGULATIONS

There are no proposed changes to early season migratory bird regulations from 2010 except those noted below. All other season elements are proposed to be unchanged from 2010.

- Season dates for Rocky Mountain Population of Sandhill Cranes (special drawn permits): Sept 10 – Sept. 25
- Season dates for Mid-continent Sandhill Cranes: Sept. 24– Nov. 20
- 280-01 crane permits in Warm Springs portion of Deer Lodge County decreased from 30 to 5

PUBLIC SCOPING FOR 2012 – 2013 BIENNIAL HUNTING SEASON SETTING

This scoping window is an early opportunity for the general public to offer support, opposition or specific proposed changes (with supporting rationale) to current hunting regulations for deer, elk, antelope, moose, sheep, goat, bear, lion, bison, wolves, upland birds and migratory birds. This scoping window is an early component of the larger biennial season setting process that includes initial adoptions of proposals for formal public comment at the December 2011 Commission meeting with final adoptions in February 2012. Scoping will be summarized at the October 2011 Commission meeting.

COMMENT PROCESS AND DEADLINE

For further clarification, you may call the Wildlife Bureau office at 406-444-2612. To submit comments electronically, this letter with the imbedded links below can be found under “Opportunity for Public Comment” on the Hunting home page at the fwp.mt.gov website. Written comments can be sent to: FWP – Wildlife Bureau, Attn: Public Comment, POB 200701, Helena, MT 59620-0701. The public comment deadline for the 2011 Early Season Migratory Bird Regulations is 5 PM, Monday, August 15, 2011. Any Final adoptions for this item are scheduled to take place at the August 18, 2011 FWP Commission meeting. The public scoping deadline for the 2012-2013 biennial hunting season setting process is 5 PM, Tuesday, September 6, 2011.

PROPOSED 2011 EARLY SEASON MIGRATORY BIRD REGULATIONS
(Deadline 5 PM Monday, August 15, 2011)

<http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/publicComments/migratoryBirdRegs.html>

PUBLIC SCOPING FOR 2012 – 2013 BIENNIAL HUNTING SEASON SETTING
(Deadline 5 PM Tuesday, September 6, 2011)

<http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/publicComments/huntingSeasons.html>